



Upper Salford Township

January 2024 Newsletter

Supervisors
Theodore F. Poatsy Jr.
Kevin C. O'Donnell
Richard E. Sacks

MONTGOMERY COUNTY AWARD RECIPIENT: Upper Salford Park to the Perkiomen Trail (P2P)

The [Park to Perkiomen Trail Connector](#), an essential part of the township's multiuse pathway network, received a 2023 Montgomery Award for the execution of a sustained vision for open space and natural resource preservation, site-sensitive trail design and construction, and community and agency partnerships collaboration. This project connects Upper Salford Park with Spring Mountain Ski Area and the Perkiomen Trail, while preserving 42 acres of high conservation value woodlands.

Watch the video summary of this project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ksy4Lhg90nI>



2024 BALANCED BUDGET PASSED: - NO TAX Increase, AGAIN! *For the 20th consecutive year, the Upper Salford Township Tax Rate has remained the same!* The prudent fiscal management of Upper Salford Township Supervisors and staff results in no increased tax rates. The Supervisors are proud to provide beautiful parks and trails and other recreational opportunities, relaxing free township concerts, historical presentations, as well as providing support for our emergency responders and local library. We are proud of our safe, peaceful, beautiful, and **not** overdeveloped township. We take care of our environment and open space to preserve our Quality of Life.

NOTE: Some misinformation has been spread that Upper Salford Township has not been transparent in our finances. Nothing could be further from the truth! On file at the office are 50 years of positive audit reports and the current township budget is posted in the Township building for public access. The 2023 Township balance sheet shows assets surpassing \$11 million dollars from the addition of open space and other assets including Upper Salford Park (\$1.6 million donation), Spring Mountain Ski Area preserved property (not the business), the Wolford Road Lot park (partial grant), the 125 acre Roger/Heister/Ganter conservation district (donation), the P2P Trail (\$1.25 million of grants), the Roundabout at Shelly, Schwenksville and Old Skippack Roads, and the updated playground equipment in Upper Salford Park (grants). Almost all of these assets were funded by donations and grants with less than 5% paid for by Township tax revenues. Smart efficient fiscal management makes Upper Salford Township great!

ENHANCED SAFETY: Township Roundabout at Shelly, Schwenksville, and Old Skippack Roads. In July 2023, the Township roundabout opened. The \$2 million fully funded Federal Highway Administration project was completed early and since opening, there have been **NO accidents** at the roundabout and traffic backups have been significantly reduced. PennDOT will finalize the landscaping and lighting in Spring, 2024.

UPPER SALFORD SUPPORTS THE LIBRARY: Since 2015 the Perkiomen Valley Library (PVL) has been Upper Salford's Home Library. The annual township cost/donation to PVL is \$16,000. In 2014 Upper Salford Township **received a letter** from the Indian Valley Public Library (IVPL), that expelled Upper Salford Township from the IVPL for failure to pay the requested \$70,500 mandated annual contribution. This letter is on file at the Township building. Previously to 2015, the Township's annual contribution to IVPL was \$30,250/year. Once expelled, the Township elected to make the Perkiomen Valley Library its home library, which satisfies State Law. You are still able to use the Indian Valley Public Library with your PVL card – both libraries receive money from the State, which opens both libraries to other library card holders. Upper Salford residents must obtain their free library card from the PVL in Schwenksville. Upper Salford Township **saves \$55,000 per year** by using the Perkiomen Valley Library as our Home Library.

ANNUAL TRADITIONS: **The 61st Philadelphia Folk Festival** at the Old Pool Farm is scheduled for August 16th to August 18th. The PFF is returning after a temporary pause to resolve financial difficulties. Please support the PFF by buying tickets and enjoy great music under the stars of Upper Salford's dark night skies. (Supporting PFF also helps to support the Upper Salford Fire Co.). The **Upper Salford Citizen's Group's Annual Fourth of July Parade** had a large 2023 turnout of participants as well as viewers. Mark your calendar for July 4, 2024, to enjoy the 36th annual parade. **The Memorial Day Flag Ceremony at Upper Salford Park** honors Upper Salford veterans from 1776 to the present. The **Annual Christmas Tree Lighting** is the first Sunday of December. Volunteers run all these events. Contact the Township office if you would like to help with any of these activities. We are truly a community of events and traditions!

RESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES:

- **Snow Removal: Vehicles on Roads:** Please do not park vehicles on roads! Especially during storms! Please do not park your cars/trucks on roads for safety reasons and for smooth snow plowing operations!
- **Township Septic Pumping Program:** **It is your responsibility** to pump your septic system once every 3 years to protect our well water and public health. You must **provide a copy of the pumping receipt** from the septic pumper to the Township office. The Township sends reminders to pump via email. Please help us help you by sharing your email address with the Township.
- **Tree Removal:** Due to the increasing number of dead trees caused by Emerald Ash Borer, Spotted Lanternflies, and other damages, residents are responsible for removing dead trees on your own property that borders roads before they become a safety hazard.
- **Township Park Pavilion Reservations:** Beginning on February 1st, Upper Salford Township is accepting reservations for the pavilion at Upper Salford Park for your private event. Please call the Township office for information, rental rates, and availability. NO alcohol is permitted in the park. Township residents receive a discounted rate for pavilion rentals.
- **Township Park Concert Series:** Upper Salford Township Park Board plans to continue to offer three free concerts in the park in June, July, and August of 2024. Check the Township website for concert details.
- **Upper Salford Township Historical Society:** Upper Salford Historical Society hosts local historical educational events throughout the year. Most of these presentations are available on the Upper Salford Historical YouTube channel so you can watch them at your leisure, but they are so much better seen in person! Contact the Historical Society at usths1441@gmail.com for more information, or visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/uppertsalfordhistory>

STAY CONNECTED! Township Website, Facebook & Email: It's a good idea to regularly visit the Township website (www.uppertsalfordtownship.com) for updates on Township happenings. In addition, we periodically send out emergency warnings, official notices, septic pump reminders, and other information via email. If you would like to receive informative Township emails, please send your email address to uppertsalfordtownship@gmail.com or info@uppertsalfordtownship.org. Emails will never be shared or sold. "Like Us" on Facebook.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The **Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company** needs **VOLUNTEERS** not only for firefighting, but also for fundraising and other non-firefighting activities. Consider volunteering to help the Fire Company food stand at the Philadelphia Folk Festival and the French Fry trailer throughout the year. The funds raised at the PFF and the French Fry trailer help to pay the annual operating costs of the fire company. The **Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary** could also use some help working their Penny Auctions (twice a year) and the Annual Easter Egg Hunt for township children. Other Township organizations, such as our local churches and the Upper Salford Citizen's Group (for the 4th of July parade), always need volunteer help. Please consider donating your time and talents to benefit our Township. You do not have to join the group to volunteer your time! Spend some time, make the effort, and meet new friends. Make it a Win/Win for everyone!

Upper Salford Township 2024 Board of Supervisors

TED POATSY, CHAIRMAN

KEVIN O'DONNELL, VICE CHAIRMAN

RICK SACKS, MEMBER

CONTACT US:

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8 AM – 4 PM

GPS: 1441 SALFORD STATION ROAD, HARLEYSVILLE, PA 19438

P.O. BOX 100, SALFORDVILLE, PA 18958

PHONE: (610) 287-6160

FAX: (610) 287-9435

EMAIL: INFO@UPPERTSALFORDTOWNSHIP.ORG

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Please join us at our Township Meetings.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	2 ND TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS & PLANNING COMMISSION.....	1 ST TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
PLANNING COMMISSION.....	3 RD TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE.....	4 TH MONDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:00 PM